7. 4.
8. 41.
9. 73.
10. 37.
11. 30.
12. Nil.
13. Nil.

## The Hydro-Electric Project.

**317. Dr. A. R. Menon.**—Has the Government any idea of putting into execution the Hydro-Electrical Project prepared during the administration of the Diwan, Mr. J. W. Bhore?

(2) If not, is there any proposal to hand over the work to any private agency? If so, who are the applicants, and on what terms is it to be given?

(3) Will the Government give an opportunity to this Council to discuss the matter before final orders are passed on the same?

(4) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House all the papers connected with the scheme?

**Mr. P. Damodara Menon.**—(1) The member is referred to the answer to the first part of the question No. 81 in the budget session.

(2) There is no such proposal. In view of the answer to the first part, the second part of the question does not arise.

(3) There is no necessity for such discussion in view of the answers (1) and (2) *supra*.

(4) The Government do not consider it necessary to place papers on the table at this stage.

## The action taken by the Government on the Resolutions passed at the Budget Session.

**318. Mr. K. T. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state what action has been taken by the Government with reference to the resolutions passed by the Legislative Council at the budget session, and to give the reason, if no action has yet been taken, though about five months have elapsed after passing the resolutions?

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**Mr. P. Damodara Menon.**—The member is referred to the answer to question No. 169 of the Makaram sitting of the Council.

## The plight of labourers in the Palappalli Rubber Estates.

**319. Dr. A. G. Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:

(i) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a statement published in the *Yogakshemam* of the 9th Dhanu 1101 (23rd December 1925) as regards the miserable plight of labourers in the Palappalli Rubber Estates;

(ii) if so, whether the Government has held any enquiry as regards the grave allegations contained in the said paper;

(iii) if so, whether it is a fact that the labourers are subjected, against their will, to hard forced labour;

(iv) if so, what action the Government has taken in the matter;

(v) if the attention of the Government has not been drawn to the above statement, will the Government be pleased to hold an enquiry at an early date?

**Mr. P. Damodara Menon.**—(i) & (ii). The matter was since enquired into by the Government.

(iii) It is not a fact.

(iv) & (v). No answer is necessary in view of the answers to parts (i), (ii) and (iii).

**Dr. A. G. Menon.**—In the answer to question (iii), it is given that "it is not a fact". There was a signed article in the paper. Did the Government examine the man who wrote it?

**Mr. P. Damodara Menon.**—An enquiry was made by the A Division Police Inspector under the orders of the District Magistrate.

**Dr. A. G. Menon.**—Sir, my question is whether the writer of the article was examined. He lives a furlong or two away from the Tirur Station. The writer is in British Malabar, and he has given his address clearly in the paper. I think I cannot accept the answer that "it is not a fact".

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